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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: August 18, 1992
TO: Division Files
FROM: Chris Cahnovsky *CNC*
SUBJECT: 1631210022 - St. Clair
Sauget/Lang's Okeh Tires - FOS

This memo is an update to the file.

On March 13, 1992, a site visit was conducted at Lang Okeh Tire located in Sauget Warehouse Bay #13 Sauget, Illinois. The purpose of this site visit was to determine this facilities compliance with Title 14 and the 848 regulations. At this time, several violations were observed. A letter dated March 18, 1992, was sent to Mr. Richard Lang, operator of Lang Okeh Tire. This letter outlined all apparent violations that were observed during the March 13, 1992, site visit. In April, 1992, the facility notified as a storage site with 14,000 tires on site and with an annual generation rate of 24,000 tires per year. Mr. Lang stated that he picks up tires in Missouri and brings them to Sauget, sorts out the good ones and then takes the scrap tires to Midwest Rubber. Richard Lang also stated, that the tires in the back of the building were put their by his brother Roy Lang. However, he would take responsibility for their removal. A formal inspection was scheduled for a later date.

On July 29, 1992, this office was contacted by Brenda Johnson and Richard Sauget, Sauget Warehouse. They were concerned about the tires being stored in the warehouse and requested that the Agency assist them in forcing Mr. Lang to remove the tires. An inspection was scheduled for July 31, 1992.

On July 30, 1992, Doug Hayward and Myself met with Brenda Johnson at the Collinsville Office. Ms. Johnson informed me that the owner of the property was Sauget Warehouse Trust, Charlotte Sauget 1405 Nickell Sauget, Illinois 62206. Apparently, Richard Lang had only rented a portion of Bay 13 and his brother Roy had filled the remaining Bay with scrap tires. Sauget Warehouse had made several attempts since 1991 to have the Langs remove the tires from their warehouse, but were unsuccessfully. Ms. Johnson stated that eviction proceeds were being filed on August 1, 1992, in the St. Clair County Courts. She also stated that she was going to seek a temporary restraining order against Richard Lang to prevent him from bring any more tires into the site.

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On July 31, 1992, an inspection was conducted at this site. Present during this inspection was Fred Lang, Roy Lang, Richard Sauget, Brenda Johnson, Doug Hayward and Myself. Approximately 28,000-35,000 tires are in Bay 13 of the Sauget Warehouse. Roy Lang admitted that he put the tires in the warehouse and the money he received from the tires was spent on building tire shopping machines. He stated that he had spent all the money he received from these tires and had no money to remove them. Mr. Sauget stated that the Lang's rental space had been exceed and he wanted the Langs to remove the tires. Fred Lang stated that they had moved several loads of tires from the warehouse to Midstates TDF in Sauget and Discount Tire in Overland, Missouri and are planning to move more. I stated that no tire hauling permitted had been issued to this facility.

On August 12, 1992, a meeting was held at the Collinsville Regional Office. Present at this meeting was Ken Mensing, Doug Hayward, Chris Cahnovsky, Brenda Johnson, and Richard and Roy Lang. Ms. Johnson stated that a court date of August 17, 1992, had been set for Richard Lang to appear in court concerning the pending eviction from Bay 13. Also, that a temporary restraining order was issued on August 7, 1992, barring Richard Lang from bringing anymore tires to this site. She stated that a permanent restraining order will be filed if necessary. Richard Lang stated that he had moved approximately 3,800 tires out of the building since August 3, 1992. This was verified by receipts from Midstates TDF. Richard Lang also stated that he would have all of the tires removed from this facility in six weeks. However, he stated that if he would be forced to go out of business he would only have enough money to operate for another two weeks. It was agreed by all parties that Richard Lang should comply with the court orders and remove the tires within six weeks. The IEPA agreed to conduct weekly inspections at this facility in order to monitor Richard Lang's progress. It was explained to Ms. Johnson that since Sauget Warehouse knowingly allowed this operation to continue to bring tires in since 1991, they could potentially be responsible for the removal of the tires.

On August 17, 1992, this office received a fax from Brenda Johnson (attached). This fax stated that Richard Lang did not appear in court for his eviction proceeding. The judge ordered Mr. Lang to vacate the premise and remove all personal property and tires within 30 days.

CNC
cc: Collinsville Region
cc: Paul Purseglove

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